<http://youtu.be/gR4XWXepV-U>

Chapter 6

**Social Control**- the formal and informal mechanisms used to increase conformity to values and norms and thus promote social cohesion (p. 158).

Social Control is interesting for any super hero, especially, a human with a dual identity. As the hero, she/he is formally and informally working to stop criminals or people who seek to harm others or property. This promotes the values and order of a community, for sure. However, does that remove the expectations of following the law and working within the system to thwart would be criminals for people without super powers?

In the U.S. there is a complex legal system, super heroes are not hired by law enforcement agencies or the judicial system. Thus, their heroic deeds are informal and occur outside of the norms in the name of social control. Doesn’t that promote vigilantism?